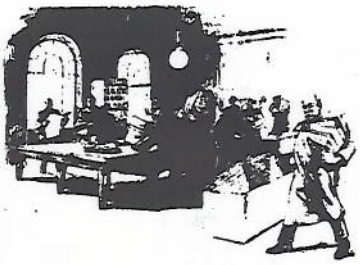
COSMEP Newsletter

COSMEP INC.

P.O. BOX 703 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. 94101



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COMING ATTRACTIONS

The Long Island Poetry Collective, CW Post Poetry Center, and the CW Post Alumni Association are sponsoring a COSMEP/East Regional Conference and Book Fair to be held at CW Post College on Saturday and Sunday, November 13-14. COSMEP/East members will receive full information. Anyone else interested in attending should contact George William Fisher, 2441 Riverside Drive, Wantagh, NY 11793....There will be a COSMEP/South Conference in Atlanta October 1-3. Contact Chuck Oliveras, 902 Hansel, Terrace Apts., Atlanta, GA 30312....The Fourth San Francisco International Book Fair will be held October 8-10. Contact Friends of Books and Comics, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102....BooksWest '76, the Los Angeles book fair, will be held at the Ambassador Hotel on September 24-26. Contact BooksWest, 2073 Outpost Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068. The deadline for reservations was July 31, but maybe you can squeeze in late.

ERRATA

In the last issue, a number of magazines were mentioned which had received CCLM grants of "$200 to $50 each". That should have read "$200 to $500"....Ryan Petty, who is working on a model contract had his address given incorrectly in the last issue. Send copies of any contract you use or know about to Ryan at 4705 Sinclair, Austin, TX 78756.

NEWS NOTES

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in cooperation with the International Poetry Forum is setting up a contemporary poetry collection with a five-year grant from the A.W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust. Send catalogs and announcements to Ernest Stefanik, 805 West First Ave, Derry, PA 15627....It costs $400 to rent a booth at the annual convention of MLA (Modern Language Association), and presses must pay an additional $100 or more for furniture. Since few small presses can afford this, the MLA is now allowing presses to get together and share exhibit space and expenses. There is no limit on the number of presses and periodicals that can share a booth. The 1976 convention will be held in New York City on December 26-29. Contact Nancy Bennett, Convention Coordinator at MLA, 62 Fifth Ave., New York 10011 for additional information....Thorp Springs Press, 2311-C Woolsey, Berkeley, CA 94705 has an unpaid account with International Services in Florida. They want to know if anyone else has had experience with this company. Any suggestions on how to collect will be appreciated....The Public Art Workshop, 5623 W Madison St, Chicago, IL 60644 sends a reprint of Walter Lowenfels article on "The White Poetry Syndicate." Lowenfels charges that the "Syndicate" commits cultural genocide against Black writers. Recommended reading....A bibliography on grant sources is available for $1.50 from Nancy Elnor, 2745 Stuart, #3, Berkeley, CA 94705. It grew out of a San Francisco Bay Area SRRT workshop. It would probably be most useful if you're looking for something other than the standard magazine or press grant, since foundations generally do not give grants for publishing....**Between the Covers** is a book review publication which is distributed free in bookstores. Review copies can be sent to Independent Review Service, 4205½ Fitch Ave, Baltimore, MD 21236....Micro, Inc., 507 Origen St, Burlington, WI 53105 is a printer that specializes in short runs of 50 to 2000 copies....Douglas Knapp has been working on a project to develop a translation center at the University of Texas at Dallas. He wants to publish a directory of translators, a directory of publishers doing translations, and a directory of contemporary literature in English translation. Input from COSMEP members and other readers of this newsletter is welcome. Send everything to The Translation Center, University of Texas at Dallas, Box 688, Mail Station 1102, Richardson, TX 75080....The Special Fourth Class Book Rate has gone up again. The Postal Service is now

charging 25 cents for the first pound, and 10 cents for each additional pound.... It was recently pointed out to us that the Small Business Administration excludes magazines and presses from those eligible for Small Business loans. The reason given is that the government doesn't want to "influence public opinion." Ruth Gottstein, who sent us this information, comments "The government doesn't hesitate to influence media via paternalistic grants from NEA and Ntl. The National Endowment for the Humanities subsidized university presses through fellowship money. But a straightforward grant to help cultural business survive—no way".... Ricardo Stewart 142-895, Box 69, London, OH 43140, an inmate at London Correctional Institution is looking for someone to correspond with. He is "looking for a warm, sincere lasting relationship".... We recently received a copy of the newsletter of the newly formed Rio Grande Writers Association (address: English Dept., University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131).... Morton Direct Mail Promotions, 342 Madison Ave, New York 10017 offers cooperative mailings to libraries, schools and bookstores. Write for details.... David Kherdian, RD Box 162, East Chatham, NY 12060 wants to know if anyone has the address of poet D.W. Gray.... David Kresh writes in with a suggestion that magazines get contributors to send in lists of friends who might buy the mag. It looks like one way to add to your promotion list.

COSMEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Judy Hogan, Chair, Chase Park 2D, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Mary MacArthur, Sec.-Tres., 3208 N 19th Rd, Arlington, VA 22201
Jackie Eubanks, 60 Remsen St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Hugh Fox, Dept. of ATL, MSU, E. Lansing, MI 48823
Ruth Gottstein, 330 Ellis St, San Francisco, CA 94102
Anne Pride, PO Box 86031, Pittsburgh, PA 15221
A.D. Winans, PO Box 31249, San Francisco, CA 94131

Dear Cosmep Members,

A couple of things. Since we are still reporting the conference, we won't get back to regular board reports until September. Meantime, here are a few things the board would like to hear from you about right away.

1. Is anyone interested in helping edit or be the chief editor for the board in updating the Technical Pamphlets and making them into a book. We have had one offer. Are there others?
2. Is anyone interested in printing the Technical Pamphlets book? Again, we have had at least one offer; but if you are interested in the job—the deal will be your providing us a certain number of copies for new members as a royalty and then selling the book yourselves at the lowest possible cost.—let us know right away.
3. Are there special areas (workgroups) you'd enjoy working with? Do you have expertise, special knowledge, skills, etc. you'd share? Also, do you have resources you could share? Money (it will hopefully be tax-deductible as a business expense by the end of 1976) over dues; equipment that might help us get the vans set up; could you do a newsletter for free sometime? We are in an economic bind of sorts these late summer months.
4. Anything else you are feeling/ thinking/ objecting to/ liking. Write directly to me or to the board. We try to guide this organization as best we can to benefit us all. Your letters help freshen our perspectives; also, buttonhole your board member when you do see him, meet him. Bend his or her ear. OK?
5. If you are particularly interested in letters which have been coming to the board about CCLM, NEA, etc. I would like to hear from you. I am going to xerox the pertinent ones and make them available in a packet to members who will send me $1.00 toward xeroxing and postage. Let me know. We just don't have room in the newsletter to print everything we'd like. This would include the letter the board wrote last year to Nancy Hanks, the Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, and the letter we wrote to Ron Sukenik, Chairman of CCLM.

I think that's all. Happy Year of the Small Press! Onward & upward!

Judy Hogan, Chair 1976-77

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Second Coming, PO Box 31249, San Francisco, CA 94131 seeks information from COSMEP people who have had their mail lost or delayed, or who have had bad personal dealings with the Postal Service. The idea is to get together an article and complaint list to present to Congress.... Trinity Press, PO Box 1320, San Francisco, CA 94101 will be holding a series of "Make Your Own Books" classes during the summer.... **Nexus** is now a free magazine; anyone who wants a copy can get one by writing to **Nexus**, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45431.... **Okike**, an African journal of new writing, is moving to Nigeria this month. The new address is PO Box 53, Nsukka, Nigeria.... **The Spirit That Moves Us** Magazine recently announced that the eight winning poems in its Bicentennial Poetry Contest have been selected. The eight winning poems are being displayed on all Iowa City and University of Iowa buses.... **Women Writing**, RD 3, Newfield, NY 14867 is preparing a directory of women writers. They envision the directory as a tool which will implement support between writers; it will not be a "Who's Who." To be listed, write and request a questionnaire as soon as possible.... Christine and Robert Thresh, of Thresh Publications, recently sent us a copy of a letter they mailed to the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice. They charged that the new postal rates (effective September 1) are injurious and unfair to small business mail users, and that the Postal Service and large-volume mailers have combined (or conspired) to set up this situation. If you aren't aware of it, by the way, small mailers will be paying more to use business reply mail after September 1, while large mailers pay **less**.... **Look Quick**, PO Box 4434, Boulder, CO 80302 has merged with a print shop and is now offering low-cost quality offset printing to COSMEP members. Free samples and estimates on request.... Maine Writers Workshop, Box 82, Stonington, ME 04681 will be holding a Caribbean Writers Workshop; write for information.... Brad Blough, co-publisher of **Omni**, also publishes a weekly newspaper called **The Good Times!** and is starting a review section of small publications. The address is 22 N. West St, Aurora, IL 60505.... **Gravida**, PO Box 118, Bayville, NY 11709 is interested in doing more reviews, and in doing more exchanges with other magazines.... Look at the article on "How to Get Reviews" for some news items about review publications.

MANUSCRIPTS WANTED

Mainespring Press, Box 82, Stonington, ME 04681 is accepting poems of a general nature for its first publication, Windfall Poems 1977. Liberal payment for all published.... Harbinger, PO Box 235, Annex Station, Providence, RI 02901 is interested in submissions of prose and poetry. Poetry submissions should be limited to three poems and prose must be of moderate length. The deadline is Sept. 1.... Chomo-Uri, 506 Goodell Hall, Univ-

ersity of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01002 is seeking submissions of poetry, drama, fiction, photography and graphics, essays, and reviews of films and books. They are interested in all perspectives on this subject: women who are or have been in institutiuons, women working with women in institutions, women who have been pushed into seeking help, or any other experiences in mental health care....Mati, 5548 N. Sawyer Ave, Chicago, IL 60625 is going to do a special fiction issue. Deadline is October 1. Mark submissions: Attn Barbara Barg....Arete, 830 Hyde St, #6, San Francisco, CA 94109 needs submissions for its second issue, especially poetry, fiction, graphics, photographs, drawings and other printables. The magazine is also planning a series of articles/primers on poetry reading (for readers, not poets) and would like to see mss. for the first installment....Toni Ortner Zimmerman, editor of Connections, Bell Hollow Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579 is compiling an anthology of poems by women about pregnancy, childbirth, the postpartum period, and feelings about their children....Washout Review, PO Box 2752, Schenectady, NY 12309 is looking for "poetry with insight and good control of sound and imagery." Graphics and photos are also needed....Omni, 22 N. West St, Aurora, IL 60505 needs fiction (science fiction, fantasy horror) from 200 to 2500 words, poetry (any subject), and artwork....A Shout in the Street, a journal of literary and visual art, will print long poems (or groups of poems), long short stories, and full length plays. Send mss. to Joe Cuomo, English Dept., Queens College, Flushing, NY 11367....Val Morehouse, 117 Worcester Pk, Falmouth, MA 02540 is seeking articles on "The Little Magazine" that have been published in littles since 1968 for a book for librarians....Slough, English Dept. UTEP, El Paso, TX 79968 is seeking material for a "Coming Together" issue on Men-Women artists living, centered on each other, working together. Graphics, poetry, and fiction are wanted....Poets On: will devote its first issue to Turning Points (beginnings, transitions, consummations, endings) and its second issue to Roots (people, places, experiences). Send manuscripts to Poets On: c/o Ruth Daigon, Box 255, Chaplin, CT 06235....Modus Operandi, c/o Sheila Jensen, PO Box 36, Brookeville, MD 20729 is sponsoring two poetry contests; write for details....Uzzano, Shimer College, Mount Carroll, IL 61053 wants poetry, fiction and sketches....Sea of Storms, PO Box 22613, San Francisco, CA 94122 needs material for its new magazine Nicotine Soup. They want poetry, graphics, photos and short stories under 2500 words....Linda Ferguson's new review publication, The Literary Monthly, will devote 25% of its space to fiction and poetry. Send mss. to Linda at PO Box 1445, Ross, CA 94957.

HOW TO GET REVIEWS

Only about 5% of the books published in the United States ever get any reviews at all. Getting a magazine reviewed is sometimes an impossible task. But, paradoxically, small presses sometimes have a better chance of getting their publications reviewed than the large commercial publishers; more and more review publications are beginning to take an interest in the small press.

But let's take a look at the big, commercial review media first. They don't care whether you're a small press or not. All they care about is getting review copies a couple of months before the publication date. You can send galley proofs, photocopies, or the completed book, but you have to send it before publication. This doesn't mean that you actually have to wait until that date comes before you start selling the book; commercial publishers often find themselves reprinting before "publication." Here are the names and addresses: **Publishers Weekly**, 1180 Ave of the Americas, New York 10036; **Library Journal**, 1180 Ave of the Americas, New York 10036; Kirkus Reviews, 60 W. 13th St., New York 10011; **New York Times Book Review**, 229 W. 43 St., New York 10002. The last, by the way, has begun to review a few small press books here and there.

If you want to sell to libraries, you might want to send copies to the following also: **The Booklist**, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; **Choice**, 100 Riverview Center, Middletown, CT 06457; **Wilson Library Bulletin**, 950 University Ave, Bronx, NY 10452; **School Library Journal**, 1180 Ave of the Americas, New York 10036; **Select Press Review**, Bridge St., Milford, NH 03055. The last is the publication of a book jobber that specializes in small press books.

If you publish a magazine, and want to go after the library market, send copies to **Library Journal**'s magazine reviewer, Bill Katz (School of Library Science, SUNY at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12203) and to **Serials Review**, PO Box 1808, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

The American Library Association runs a syndicated weekly book review column that has been picked up by a number of newspapers. Send copies to Carol Felsenthal, ALA, Public Information Office, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Libraries, by the way, are a very good market for small press books and little magazines. It takes a while to build up a subscription list, but if you do books, you can sometimes sell enough to libraries to make a profit before you even distribute any to stores. Some presses do business exclusively with libraries. Some books don't sell to libraries, of course. Different books have different markets.

The small press review journals review only small press publications, magazines as well as books. **Small Press Review** (PO Box 1056, Paradise, CA 95969) and **Margins** (2912 N. Hackett, Milwaukee, WI 53211) have gotten $10,000 each from the National Endowment for the Arts to send copies to all the people listed in **A Directory of American Poets**. So, send to those two, and you reach a lot of writers. One of the newest small press review magazines is **Northeast Rising Sun**, 1416 W. Mt. Royal Ave, Baltimore, MD 21217. **Poetry Information**, c/o The National Poetry Centre, 21 Earls Court Square, London SW5, U.K. (which is not nearly as establishment as the address makes it sound) reviews a lot of poetry publications and lists, with short comments, all books and magazines received. **Booklegger**, 555 29th St, San Francisco, CA 94131 is a magazine for librarians. It reviews little fiction or poetry, but covers a lot of material with a radical or feminist slant.

Newspapers are reviewing more small press books all the time. Now, we can't list every newspaper in the U.S., and you couldn't afford to send review copies to each one. But do at least hit the paper or papers in your area. Newspapers are interested in anything that's local, and will often review your book or magazine for just that reason. This is as true of papers in big cities as it is in small ones. Here in San Francisco, reviews of small press books are appearing in the Sunday book review supplement every now and then—but only of books from presses located in northern California. Address review copies to the book review editor by name. You can find his or her name in **Literary Market Place** (which ought to be in the reference dept. of your library) if it's not printed in the paper.

In the last couple of years, we've begun to see publications that take a special interest in the small press, though they review books from all presses. Now, it obviously won't hurt to have your book reviewed next to the latest heavily-promoted item from Random House, so these publications are definitely worth sending copies to. **BooksWest**, 2073 Outpost Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068 is written up elsewhere in this issue. It reviews

magazines, too, by the way. **The San Francisco Review of Books**, 2140 Vallejo St, San Francisco, CA 94123 is an excellent general review magazine with a lot of small press coverage. SFRB will be publishing the official directory for the Fourth San Francisco International Book Fair as a supplement to its October issue, by the way. That issue will have an extra large press run. SFBR is offering special discount rates to COSMEP members who want to purchase ad space. Space reservations have to be in by August 30. If you can't afford to advertise, you can still send in books for review. **The Pacific Sun Literary Quarterly** is a supplement to a suburban newspaper published in the San Francisco area. 10,000 copies of each issue are distributed with the Pacific Sun; the **Quarterly** has an additional circulation of its own of 10,000. By the time you read this, it will be too late to send review copies for the last issue. The **Quarterly**, as you might expect, has been losing money; as a result, it is being dropped by its publisher. Editor Linda Ferguson plans, however, to revive the review as an independent publication called **The Literary Monthly**. Circulation will remain at 20,000, and the first issue will appear in November. There will be extensive coverage of the small press, and review columns on small press books in general, small press poetry, and women's presses. COSMEP Coordinator Richard Morris will be an Associate Editor. Send review copies to Linda Ferguson, PO Box 1445, Ross, CA 94957.

There are also lots of specialized publications and publications with regional interests. You'll find them mentioned from time to time in the "News Notes" section of this newsletter; you can dig up others yourself. One publication, however, deserves special notice. **NewLetters**, published by Beyond Baroque, 1639 W. Washington Blvd, Venice, CA 90291 has a large free distribution. It is especially interested in books and magazines published on the West Coast, and notes just about all of these that are received. This isn't the place to talk about all the other things that Beyond Baroque is doing. If you're located in the West, however, it would certainly be worth your while to get into contact with them.

One subject that we have not gone into here is that of listings (as opposed to reviews). We'll probably run an article on this at a later date. For now, we'll simply advise you to get listed everywhere you can; every listing is free advertising.

NEW REVIEW JOURNAL

The first issue of **BooksWest**, a new book review magazine, was recently published. According to editor George Trinkaus, "Covering the world of presses largely ignored by the established media is what **BooksWest** is all about." The magazine, however, contains more than reviews; it also has extensive coverage of book-related events. There is an article on book fairs, another on the recent Inkslingers Fair in Berkeley, a profile of a West Coast small press, and commentary on the recently announced Doubleday-Dell merger. There are short reviews of numerous books, many of them published by COSMEP members.

BooksWest would like to cover the small presses more extensively, but it is not receiving enough review copies. So send your books and catalogs to: BooksWest, 2073 Outpost Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068.

Incidentally, the BooksWest '76 book fair will be held September 24-26 at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

NATIONAL BOOK AWARDS

Books are recommended for the NBA by their publishers. Any book published between January 1, 1976 and December 31, 1976 is eligible for one of the 1977 awards. The categories are: Poetry, Fiction, Biography and Autobiography, History, Children's Literature, and Contemporary Thought. The last is a catch-all term that covers Arts and Letters, Contemporary Affairs, Philosophy, Religion and Science. If you wish to recommend a book that you have published, contact The National Institute of Arts and Letters, 633 West 153 St., New York, NY 10032.

OPEN ACCESS FM STATIONS

The following radio stations are the places to go if you want to talk to people about your magazine or press, read poetry, or do on-the-air reviews. The people who run them are often very busy and absent-minded, but they'll eventually get you on the air if you keep after them about it. They will also use tapes of good quality.

KAXE, Itaska Community College, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
KBOO, 3129 SE Belmont, Portland, OR 97214
KBDY, 2505 St. Louis Ave, St. Louis, MO 63106
KCHU, 2516 Maple, Dallas, TX 75201
KOPN, 915 E Broadway, Columbia, MO 65201
KOTO, PO Box 703, Telluride, CO 81435
KPFA, 2207 Shattuck, Berkeley, CA 94704
KPOO, PO Box 11008, San Francisco, CA 94101
WAIF, 2525 Victory Pkwy, Cincinnati, OH 45206
WEVL, 1369 Court St, Memphis, TN 38101
WFAC, 214 E State St, Columbus, OH 43215
WLNK, 616 3rd Ave S, Columbus, MS 39701
WORT, PO Box 3219, Madison, WI 53704
WYEP, 4 Cable Pl, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
WYSO, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH 45387
KAZI, 5505 Pendleton Ln, Austin, TX
KBBF, 410 Finley Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
KPBX, 24 W 27th Ave, Spokane, WA 99203
KPFK, 3729 Cahuenga Blvd, N Hollywood, CA 90038
KRBD, Box 17, Ketchikan, AK 99901
KPFT, 419 Lovett, Houston, TX 77006
KRAB, 1406 Harvard, Seattle, WA 98122
KTOO, Box 1487, Juneau, AK 99802
KUSP, Box 423, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
WBAI, 359 E 62nd St, NYC 10021
WVSP, Box 365, Warrenton, NC 27589
WPFW, National Press Bldg, Washington, DC 20045
WRFG, PO Box 5332, Atlanta, GA 30307
WAFR, Box 1166, Durham, NC
KAOS, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505
KSML, Box 88, Kings Beach, CA 95719
CFRO, 333 Carrall, Vancouver, Canada
KKUP, Box 547, Cupertino, CA 95014
The Possible Tape Exchange, 705 N Lincoln, Urbana, IL 61801

Of course, they all have phones; look in your local telephone book.